

Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow
HO-873
8525 Commercial Street, Savage
Howard County
Ca. 1920s
Private

8525 Commercial Street is a ca. 1920s bungalow located just north of the Savage Mill complex in the Savage Mill Historic District. The house is set on a .214-acre lot, which is surrounded by early- to mid-19th century worker's duplexes and attached houses. The property slopes downward from front to back so that the basement is a full-story in height at the back of the building. The bungalow is the only building on the lot.

8525 Commercial Street is a 1-story plus basement 1,336 square-foot side-gable bungalow with a roughly square footprint and a side-gable porch. The house is constructed of brick that has been faced with simulated stone, like Formstone, has an asphalt roof, and has ca. 1990s vinyl one-over-one windows. A slightly projecting water table marks floor line between basement and 1st story. The house retains its wood front porch and wood detailing such as deeply overhanging eaves with wood knee braces and exposed rafter ends and its wood front door.

8525 Commercial Street is a contributing building in the Savage Mill Historic District. 8525 Commercial Street is significant as an early 20th century worker's house located in that Historic District. The owners of the Savage Mill ran a Rhode Island type mill village where the mill owners provided nearly all of the housing, as well as stores, churches, and schools. Uncharacteristic of Maryland, the mill town remained small enough that the paternalistic system remained in place well into the 20th century. Thus, 8525 Commercial Street is an unusual example of an early 20th century mill-built worker's house. The house is also an exemplary bungalow. The house features most all of the bungalow style's distinctive features, including a low-pitched gabled roof with a wide, unenclosed eave overhang with exposed roof rafters and decorative braces, and a porch with roof supported by square columns set on piers that extend to ground level.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-873

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow

other Josephine Schultz House

2. Location

street and number 8525 Commercial Street not for publication

city, town Savage vicinity

county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Janis Taylor

street and number 8525 Commercial Street telephone 301-513-1217

city, town Savage state MD zip code 20763

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Land Records liber 8187 folio 384

city, town Columbia tax map 47 tax parcel 455 tax ID number 06-395023

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	1	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	0	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	0	0 objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	1	0 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary		
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			1	

7. Description

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Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

8525 Commercial Street is a ca. 1920s bungalow located just north of the Savage Mill complex in the Savage Mill Historic District. The house is set on a .214-acre lot, which is surrounded by early- to mid-19th century worker's duplexes and attached houses. The property slopes downward from front to back so that the basement is a full-story in height at the back of the building. The bungalow is the only building on the lot.

8525 Commercial Street is a 1-story plus basement 1,336 square-foot side-gable bungalow with a roughly square footprint and a side-gable porch. The house is constructed of brick that has been faced with simulated stone, like Formstone, has an asphalt roof, and has ca. 1990s vinyl one-over-one windows.¹ A slightly projecting water table marks floor line between basement and 1st story. The house retains its wood front porch and wood detailing such as deeply overhanging eaves with wood knee braces and exposed rafter ends and its wood front door.

8525 Commercial Street's primary facade faces west and fronts Commercial Street. The 1st story of the front facade is asymmetrically arranged. The front door is located in the northern-most bay and is sheltered by a projecting front porch. The front porch projects from the northern third of the front facade and wraps around the north facade. One window opening is located just north of center of the 1st story and lights the living room. The southern half of 1st story has a triple window opening that lights the office. At the attic story, a small cross gable pierces the roofline and caps the front door and northern window opening. The gable encloses a round vent and is faced with ca. 2000 fishscale shingles. A centered brick fireplace chimney also pierces the front slope of the roof.

The south, side-gable facade of 8525 Commercial Street is three bays wide. The 1st story has four symmetrical window openings: a western single window opening, paired central openings, and an eastern single window opening. The basement story has a pair of small windows that are vertically aligned with the centered window openings and a pair of one-over-one windows in the eastern bay. Triangular wood knee braces support the overhanging eaves of the side gable.

The rear (east) facade of 8525 Commercial Street is three bays wide. The 1st story has two window openings: one is located in the southern bay and one is located in the center bay. The basement story has a door opening in the center bay, that is offset slightly north of center. The shadow of a previous door hood is visible over the door opening. Two window openings flank the door opening and are located in the north and south bays. Two large brick chimneys pierce the rear roof slope and provide exhaust for a downstairs wood-burning fireplace, furnace, and stove.

The 1st story of the north, side-gable, facade of 8525 Commercial Street is organized around a centered projecting square bay window. The projecting bay has a shed roof with exposed rafter ends and holds three window openings that light the dining room. Just east of the bay is a paired window opening that lights the kitchen. East of the kitchen windows is a single small window opening that lights the pantry. Just west of the bay is a single window opening that lights the living room. The front porch projects from the west end of the north facade. The basement story has a pair of window openings that are vertically aligned with the pair east of the bay. Triangular wood knee braces support the overhanging eaves of the side gable.

¹ Simulated stone was very popular in Maryland from the 1930s-1960s, with its greatest use concentrated in Baltimore City. "Perma-Stone was registered as a trademark in 1929 by a Columbus, Ohio, company of the same name, which trained and authorized local dealers and provided them with the molds and materials they needed to install it. Its immediate success spurred competitors to fill the desire for a maintenance-free covering for poorly constructed exterior walls.

The original use of Formstone, patented in 1937, was to apply a uniform exterior covering to suburban houses that had undergone additions with unmatched siding. However, it quickly became more popular for covering the exteriors of old row houses in Baltimore, built by the tens of thousands using porous brick that left them plagued by penetrating moisture. Formstone salesmen touted sealing qualities and a 20-year guaranty that, for the cost of three paint jobs, would virtually assure a lifetime free of leaking walls and peeling paint." (Paul K. Williams, "The Faux Stone Follies" *Old House Journal*, June 2003, http://washingtonhistory.com/OHJ/OHJ_0603_Permastone.htm, April 20, 2005.)

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The side gable front porch projects from the west and north facades. The porch has a concrete floor and has substantial, square triple wood posts set on piers faced with simulated stone and a wood railing.

Interior

The interior of 8525 Commercial Street largely retains its original floor plan, features, and materials, including arched openings, wood floors and plaster walls and ceilings, and wood trim. The house has a living room with fireplace, office, dining room, kitchen, pantry, hall, two bedrooms, and a bathroom on the 1st floor. The house has a bedroom, sitting room, large mechanical and storage room, and a bathroom on the basement floor. The only substantial alteration is that the 1st floor corridor partition was removed prior to ca. 2000, creating an open floor plan between the dining room and the upstairs bedrooms.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates ca. 1920, 1948 **Architect/Builder** Savage Manufacturing Company (bldr)

Construction dates ca. 1920

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

8525 Commercial Street is a contributing building in the Savage Mill Historic District. 8525 Commercial Street is significant as an early 20th century worker's house located in that Historic District. The owners of the Savage Mill ran a Rhode Island type mill village where the mill owners provided nearly all of the housing, as well as stores, churches, and schools. Uncharacteristic of Maryland, the mill town remained small enough that the paternalistic system remained in place well into the 20th century. Thus, 8525 Commercial Street is an unusual example of an early 20th century mill-built worker's house. The house is also an exemplary bungalow. The house features most all of the bungalow style's distinctive features, including a low-pitched gabled roof with a wide, unenclosed eave overhang with exposed roof rafters and decorative braces, and a porch with roof supported by square columns set on piers that extend to ground level.²

Savage's collection of worker's houses is unusual in that the Savage Manufacturing Company constructed and maintained houses over the course of a full century. The town presents a full range of house types from Federal style duplexes to early 20th c. bungalows. 8525 Commercial Street is a well-preserved example of the early 20th homes constructed by the Savage Manufacturing Company. The house embodies the 20th c. philosophies of the corporation and integrates both national and Savage-specific features. The single-family design of the house and bungalow style demonstrates that the company was responsive to national trends. The house, however is still sited so that the householders could maintain a substantial back yard garden and the house has some unusual features, such as chimneys that would support wood-burning stoves indicative of the mill-town specific industrial/agrarian lifestyle promoted by the mill owners.

In 1822, the Williams brothers founded the Savage Manufacturing Company, a cotton works, at the site of a ca. 1810 grist mill on the Little Patuxent River. Named for a financial backer, John Savage, the Savage Mill was completed by 1823. By 1825 120 power looms with 1000 spindles were producing cotton.³ About 1839, William H. Baldwin, Jr. of Baltimore purchased the mill. The firm Baldwin, Leslie & Co., with Carroll Baldwin as president, owned and operated the mill starting in 1905.⁴

Whereas some of Maryland's largest cotton milling communities, such as Woodberry-Hampden, transitioned from mill-owned hamlets to more independent villages in the last decades of the 19th c., the Savage enterprise and town remained small enough to continue as a company owned town through the World War II era. The corporation provided a "flour mill, saw mill, ice plant and quarry."⁵ By the early 20th century, the also took on many of the municipal functions typically supplied by local government. They "constructed water and sewerage systems, built a lighting plant, handled the snowplowing and garbage collections, had orchards, sold coal and wood, and

² Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, p. 453.

³ Dennis Zembala, ed., *Baltimore, Industrial Gateway on the Chesapeake Bay*, p. 132.

⁴ <http://members.cyberrealm.net/rockfish/hack04.htm>, April 21, 2005.

⁵ Dennis Zembala, ed., *Baltimore, Industrial Gateway on the Chesapeake Bay*, p. 133.

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ran the stores."⁶ The philosophy espoused by the Savage Company is evident in the dedication of the community hall they constructed in the 1920s, about the same date as 8525 Commercial Street:

We should heartily thank God that during the past year we have seen the completion of two buildings which will supply long-felt needs in this community. One is the public school, beautiful and commodious, made possible by the joint cooperation of the County Board of Education, the Savage Manufacturing Company and the generous and public-spirited people of the village.

The other building is this in which we are now met, erected and given by the Savage Manufacturing Company as the memorial tablet will forever say, "For the welfare and happiness of the whole community." True, it shall be a memorial through all of time of Carroll Baldwin, but it could not be a memorial worthy of him if it had not expressed his own aim and ambition, viz: to promote the welfare and happiness of this whole community. For this he thought, planned and labored. Was it of the mill? Then the best machinery must be had, the best goods in largest quantity and quickest time must be turned out; not for the company's advantage only, but that every worker should have his just and reasonable share of the profits. Was it of the store? His injunction was to get the best goods money can buy, and sell them at a price only sufficient to cover running expenses. Was it of the farm? Then he said he, identifying himself with the community, "Plant 500 apple trees that *we all* may have fruit in its season. Give every man who wishes it a garden and let every family keep a cow at the barn and in the pasture at a cost to yield no profit to the company. In a similar spirit, water, electricity and sewerage go the house of every employee."⁷

This description of the activities of the Savage Manufacturing Company's director demonstrates how pervasive the role of the company was in the lives of Savage's residents and how this control mechanism was veiled in the language of benevolence.

The mill peaked in WWII, when "400 hands ran 12,000 ring spindles, 3,000 water spindles, 72 cards, and 194 looms. 4,000,000 pounds of cloth was produced a month." After WWII, business tanked and the Savage Manufacturing Company sold the mill and houses to Harry Heim, a Christmas tree ornament manufacturer. Santa Novelties, Inc., sold the mill houses to individual owners soon thereafter, ending the long era of paternalism in Savage. Josephine Schultz bought the house just two months after it was sold to Santa Novelties. Prior tenants often purchased Mill houses when the corporations distributed their holdings. Ms. Shultz retained the property until 1973 and the house has had five owners since that date.

⁶ Dennis Zembala, ed., **Baltimore, Industrial Gateway on the Chesapeake Bay**, p. 133.

⁷ Carroll Baldwin Memorial Hall Dedication Services," Nov. 30, 1922, n.p..

9. Major Bibliographical References

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"Carroll Baldwin Memorial Hall Dedication Services," Nov. 30, 1922. (Located in the Savage Manufacturing Co. vertical file, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.)

Hopkins, G.M. **Atlas of Howard County, Maryland, 1878**. Ellicott City, MD: Howard County Bicentennial Commission, Inc., 1975.

Howard County Land Records, Dorsey Building, Columbia. See attached chain of title for specific libers and folios.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. **A Field Guide to American Houses**. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2004.

Zembala, Dennis, ed. **Baltimore, Industrial Gateway on the Chesapeake Bay**. Baltimore: Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1995.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .214
Acreage of historical setting .214
Quadrangle name Savage Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of 8525 Commercial Street corresponds to Howard County Map 47, Grid 11, Parcel 455, which is the building's current and historic legal lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Jennifer Goold, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning	date	April 20, 2005
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

HO-873
Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow
8525 Commercial Street, Savage
Howard County

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS.	PRICE	ACREAGE	COMMENTS
Jennifer L. Laidacker	Janis Taylor	03-19-2004	8187	384	Deed	290,000	.214	
Jeffrey Lee Banner and Diane Tormollan Banner	Jennifer L. Laidecker	06-27-2003	7363	435	Deed	250,000	.214	
Jeffrey S. Bolster and Michelle O. Bolster	Jeffrey Lee Banner and Diane Tormollan Banner	07-23-1992	2607	541	Deed	120,000	.214	
James E. Burkey and Susan Jo. Burkey	Jeffrey S. Bolster and Michelle O. Bolster	07-15-1986	1514	217	Deed	75,000	.214	
James E. Burkey and Susan Jo Burkey	Josephine LeDonne	03-26-1973	630	119	Mortgage	25,000	.214	
Josephine L. LeDonne, formerly known as Josephine Schultz	James E. Burkey and Susan Jo Burkey	03-26-1973	630	117	Deed	5.00	.214	
Straw Main, Inc.	Josephine Schultz, unmarried (Baltimore County)	09-06-1966	459	56	Deed	5.00	.214	The said Straw Man, Inc. does grant and convey unto the said Josephine Schultz for and during the term of her natural life, this full and absolute powers to sell, lease, mortgage or in any other manner to dispose of or encumber (except by Last Will and Testament), and after the death of said Josephine Schultz without having exercised any of the foregoing powers, so much as may remain unto Josephine LeDonne....
Josephine Schultz, unmarried (Baltimore County)	Straw Man, Inc.	09-06-1966	459	54	Deed	5.00	.214	
Santa Novelties, Inc.	Josephine Schultz	11-27-1948	208	5	Deed	5.00	.214	

HO-873

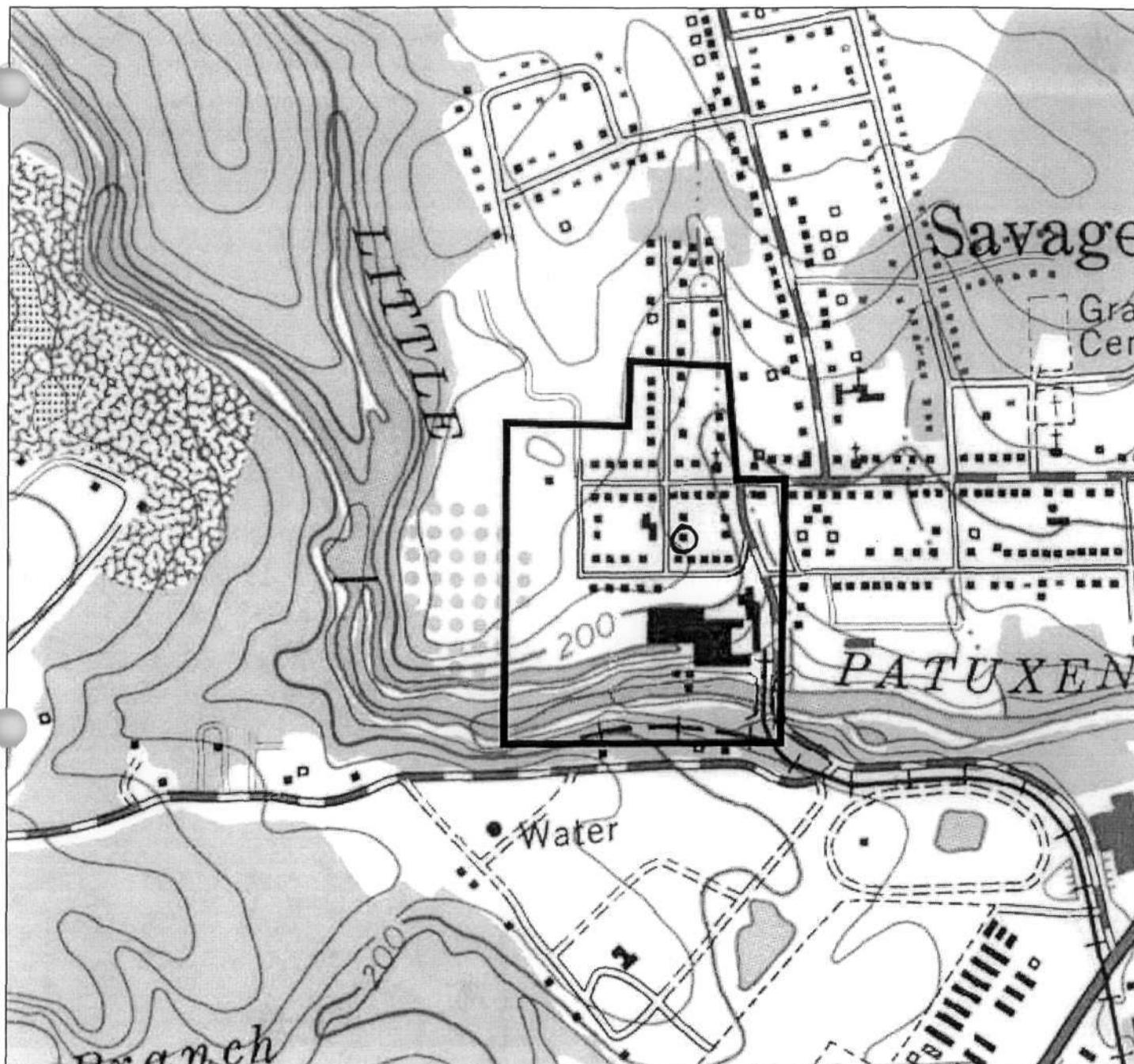
Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow
8525 Commercial Street, Savage
Howard County

CHAIN OF TITLE

Savage Manufacturing Company of Howard County	Santa Novelties, Inc.	08-24- 1948	205	375	Deed	5.00		Multiple properties
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Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow (HO-873)
8525 Commercial Street, Savage
Howard County
Aerial Photo/Site Plan



Savage Mill Historic District Boundary Map

[See Property Detail](#)

Close Window

Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow (Ho-873)
8525 Commercial Street, Savage
Howard County



Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow (HO-873)
8525 Commercial Street, Savage
Howard County
USGS Savage Quad



HO-873

Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow

Howard County, MD

Jennifer Gould

03-12-05

MD SHPO

View NE. Shows front & side facades.

1063

ART-2611 <NO.20A>B18
529 1217 - I N N-5-41 (0442)©



HO-873

Savage Mill Worker's Bungalow

Howard County, MD

Jennifer Goold

03-12-05

MD SHPO

New SE. Shows front + side facades.

2 of 3.

ART-2611 <NO.19A>B17
529 1212 -1 N N-6-41 <044>@



HO-873

Savage Mill Workers Bungalow

Howard County, MD

Jennifer Gould

03-12-05

MD APO

View sw. Interior, living room. Shows
wood floors, plaster walls, arched opening, brick
fireplace.

3063

ART-2611 <NO. 21A>019
579 1212 -1 N N-5 55 <044>0